Slurs, Key Signatures (Gr. 4)

Content Area: **Instrumental Music**
Course(s): **Instrumental Music**
Time Period: **Week 23**
Length: **5 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

Students will learn to demonstrate playing slurs and deciphering key signatures.

Standards

VPA.3-5.1.1.5.B.2	Demonstrate the basic concepts of meter, rhythm, tonality, intervals, chords, and melodic and harmonic progressions, and differentiate basic structures.
VPA.3-5.1.3.5.B.1	Sing or play music from complex notation, using notation systems in treble and bass clef, mixed meter, and compound meter.
VPA.3-5.1.3.5.B.4	Decode how the elements of music are used to achieve unity and variety, tension and release, and balance in musical compositions.
VPA.3-5.1.4.5.B.2	Use evaluative tools, such as rubrics, for self-assessment and to appraise the objectivity of critiques by peers.

Essential Questions

1) How are key signatures, sharps and flats related, and how can you apply the understanding of the relationship of these elements to other topics of music?

Application of Knowledge and Skills...

Students will know that...

- 1. how to play a slur.
- 2. what a key signature is.
- 3. how sharps and flats affect a given note.

Students will be skilled at...

- A) demonstrate the correct articulation to perform a slur correctly.
- B) demonstrate deciphering the key signature correctly to play the correct pitches within an example.
- C) demonstrate playing a correct pitch based on the knowledge of how sharps and flats function.

Assessments

- Unit Test Summative: Exhibition Students will perform musical selections containing slurs and key signatures. 1.1.5.B2 1.3.5.B1 1.3.5.B4 1.4.5.B2
- Key Signature Example Formative: Exhibition Students will play through examples using key signatures instead of accidentals. 1.1.5.B2 1.3.5.B1 1.3.5.B4 1.4.5.B2
- Sleur Examples Formative: Exhibition Students will play examples containing slurs, especially an excerpt from "Symphony No. 1" by Brahms. 1.1.5.B2 1.3.5.B1 1.3.5.B4 1.4.5.B2
- What are Key Signatures? Diagnostic: Other written assessments Students will define key signatures. 1.1.5.B2
- What are slurs? Diagnostic: Other written assessments Students attempt to define slurs based on prior knowledge of articulation. 1.1.5.B2 1.4.5.B2

Activities

- "Symphony No. 1" (Brahms)
- Pre-Assessment: What are key signatures?
- "There's Music in the Air" - George F. Root (uses key signature)

Activities to Differentiate Instruction

- Tempo Variation - Students will play at slower tempo, written tempo, or faster tempo based on ability.
- Varied length of demonstrated examples - A student experiencing difficulty will play a segment of an example, while a student who excels will play more challenging examples.
- Students experiencing difficulty with slurring will tongue the notes and learn the songs; then incorporate the slurs. Students showing mastery of the slur may attempt challenging articulation exercises.

Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction

Sound production and Pitch (Vocal Music, Science)

Note Reading (Vocal Music)

Note Values (Vocal Music, Math)

Resources

Standard of Excellence, Book 1

Neil A. Kjos Music Company